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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

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1. COUNTRY: Argentina

2. REPORT NUMBER: 6 804 0334 76

2. SUBJECT: (U) Special Operations Forces (U)

3. DATE OF REPORT: 1976, OCT 1

3. INC NUMBER: N/A

4. NO. OF PAGES: 2

4. DATE OF INFORMATION: 1976, SEP 28

5. REFERENCES: PG1200 PG1100 ICR A-TAC-44396
PG2200 PG1300
PG2220 PG2240

5. PLACE AND DATE OF ACQ: 1976, SEP 28,
BUENOS AIRES

6. ORIGINATOR: USDAO BUENOS AIRES

6. EVALUATION: SOURCE A INFORMATION 1

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10. SUMMARY: (S/AMEMB/NOFORN). This IR provides information on joint counterinsurgency operations by several countries in South America. Information was provided by US Embassy Legal Attache who has excellent contacts within the State Secretariat for Information and Federal Police Force.

This IR partially fulfills requirement of ICR A-TAC-44396.

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WARNING NOTICE-SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED

1. (S/AMEMB/NOFORN) "Operation Condor" is the code name given for intelligence collection on "leftists," Communists and Marxists in the Southern Cone Area. It was recently established between cooperating intelligence services in South America in order to eliminate Marxist terrorist activities in member countries with Chile reportedly being the center of operations. Other participating members include: Argentina, Paraguay, Uruguay and Bolivia. In addition, Brazil has apparently tentatively agreed to provide intelligence input for Operation Condor. Members showing the most enthusiasm to date have been Argentina, Uruguay and Chile. These three countries have engaged in joint operations, primarily in Argentina, against terrorists targets. During the week of 20 September 1976, the Director of the Argentine Army Intelligence Service traveled to Santiago to consult with

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13. SUBMISSION DATA

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SIFICATION SCHEDULE OF EXECU-
TIVE ORDER 11652. EXEMPTION
CATEGORY TWO. DECLASSIFY ON
31 DEC 2006

14. ATTACHMENT DATA

NONE

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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his Chilean counterparts on Operation Condor (This travel is similar to trip reported in IR 6 804 0309 76.)

2. ~~(S//INTTEL//NOFORN)~~ During the period 24-27 September 1976, members of the Argentine State Secretariat for Information (SIDE), operating with officers of the Uruguayan Military Intelligence Service carried out operations against the Uruguayan Terrorist organization, the OPR-33 in Buenos Aires. As a result of this joint operation, SIDE officials claimed that the entire OPR-33 infrastructure in Argentina has been eliminated. A large volume of US currency was seized during the combined operation.

3. ~~(S//INTTEL//NOFORN)~~ A third and reportedly very secret phase of "Operation Condor" involves the formation of special teams from member countries who are to carry out operations to include assassinations against terrorist or supporters of terrorist organizations. For example, should a terrorist or a supporter of a terrorist organization from a member country be identified, a special team would be dispatched to locate and surveil the target. When the location and surveillance operation has terminated, a second team would be dispatched to carry out an operation against the target. Special teams would be issued false documentation from member countries, could be composed either of individuals from one member nation or of persons from various member nations. Source stated that team members would not be commissioned or non-commissioned officers of the armed forces, but rather "special agents." Two European countries, specifically mentioned for possible operations under the third phase were France and Portugal.

4. ~~(S//INTTEL//NOFORN)~~ A special team has apparently been organized in Argentina for use in "Operation Condor." They are members of the Argentine Army Intelligence Service and the State Secretariat for Information. They are reportedly structured much like a US Special Forces Team with a medic (doctor), demolition expert, etc.,. They are apparently being prepared for action in phase three.

COMMENT: ~~(S//INTTEL//NOFORN)~~ More and more is being heard about "Operation Condor" in the southern cone. Military officers who, heretofore, had been mum on the subject have begun to talk openly about it. A favorite remark is that, "one of their colleagues is out of country because he is flying like a condor."

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